



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Environmental Center
Crawford 317 • 2550 Campus Road
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822
Telephone (808) 948-7361

Office of the Director

RL:0441

SR 218 and SCR 69
**URGING THE ADOPTION OF MEASURES TO REDUCE THE
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF ACCIDENTAL RELEASES OF RADIOACTIVITY**

Statement for
Senate Committee on
Ecology, Environment and Recreation
Public Hearing - 14 April 1981

By
Jacquelin N. Miller, Environmental Center
Garret Kawamura, Environmental Center

SR 28 (SCR 69) urges that the State of Hawaii, the City and County of Honolulu and the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard enter into negotiations for the purposes of establishing Memoranda of Understanding with respect to emergency response to radiological incidents at the shipyard. The Environmental Center statement on SR 218 (SCR 69) does not represent an institutional position of the University of Hawaii.

The concerns raised in SR 218 (SCR 69) accurately demonstrate the need for cooperation between the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and government agencies in response to radiological incidents. It is our understanding that there is an existing state-federal agreement outlined in the State's Civil Defense plans for radiological accidents. Perhaps this agreement should be examined by the State Advisory Committee on Radiological Safety. We note the resolution urges separate negotiations between the City and County of Honolulu and the Naval Shipyard and the State and the Naval Shipyard. It would seem more appropriate for the State to act as the overall coordinator of the tripartite negotiations with a single memoranda of understanding developed through joint study and review. This should maximize the coordination of civilian and military responsibility in times of emergencies.

Despite the fact that Pearl Harbor is the center of the Navy's activities in Hawaii, a Memorandum of Agreement should not simply target that facility. There always exists the possibility of off-shore reactor accidents which could have an even more profound effect. A State agreement with the Navy should be a comprehensive plan addressing all Navy activities involving the potential for radiological incidents within Hawaii's territorial limits.